

**COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE**  
**APRIL 16, 2013**  
**6:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Common Council of the City of Rushville, Indiana met on the above date and time at 270 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street. Mayor Pavey called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

**PLEDGE TO FLAG:**

**PRAYER:** Councilman Berkemeier led those present in prayer.

**ROLL CALL:** Bob Bridges, Brian Conner, Craig Smith, Brad Berkemeier, and Brian Sheehan answered roll call. Also present was City Attorney, Tracy Newhouse.

**PUBLIC MEETING:** Paula Hartwell from ARa is applying for a recreational trails grant for the City through DNR. Up to \$150,000.00 may be requested, with a 20% match from the City. The trail would be along the levee; it would be 8 foot wide and would only be within the City. It would also need to meet ADA requirements. Sinage is required by DNR. Bridges recommended moving forward with the application for the grant using concrete and labor match. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

George Coons asked if the levee has been recertified. Pavey said we are in the process.

Bridges made a motion to close the public meeting. Berkemeier seconded the motion. The public meeting on the grant application was closed.

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the April 2, 2013 meeting were presented for approval. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Berkemeier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Pavey reported:

1. 30 cadets from the Hoosier Youth Challenge were in town Saturday cleaning at Riverside Park and the former VFW site.
2. Passed around a response received from Jean Leising on the gaming issue. She said we should be prepared to testify before the State Senate.
3. Received a letter from Dr. Williams concerning the summer lunch program. This will not be offered at the pool this year. This year they will include the lunches at ICAP and the West End Park.
4. We are working on the website. You may be asked for a new photo.
5. We are beta testing the streaming today.
6. The CSO Committee meeting with IDEM has been changed to April 29.
7. The Mayor's roundtable is scheduled for April 25, if you plan to go be sure to RSVP.

8. Drawings for NIP have been submitted. We are hoping to bid the project in early June.
9. Attended a meeting today with the State on SEDS. It went well. We will be meeting with 15-25 local leaders and develop a newer version of the SEDS.
10. Thursday Carolyn Bunzendahl will represent Rushville at the Young Entrepreneurs Program.
11. Attended a meeting "Complete College America" with Ivy Tech. This will require us to take a different approach to pro secondary education.
12. Attended the seminar on tax abatement with Hoosier Energy last week at the Courthouse.
13. Had a meeting with Reedy & Crowe to discuss CSO options.
14. The Mayor's 5K walk/run is April 27<sup>th</sup>, there are over 105 registered. I will present a proclamation for Arbor Day after the walk. There will also be other activities that day at the amphitheater.
15. The Heart of Rushville will roast Cinda Brown on May 11.

**CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT:** None.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Bridges said he spoke to Chuck Kemker regarding Crystal Woods' request for a tornado siren south of town. Kemker said the sirens are discouraged within the City limits because for the most part they are not heard. The main areas they are placed within a City are areas where there are playgrounds and ball fields. Kemker suggested a weather radio. He has some available at no cost. He also suggested signing up for Code Red with County. Another option would be for the City to obtain a software package from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security for the cost of \$2,500.00 this would provide a link to Code Red.

Bridges said he attended the restoration & expansion kickoff of the library Saturday night. He passed out information for review by those present.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. Amphitheater- No report.
2. Comprehensive Plan – No report.
3. Trash Sub Committee – No report
4. Employee Benefits/City Policy – No report.
5. APC/BZA Building Code – No report.
6. Utility Board/BW/CC Working Committee – No report.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Fire** – Jenkins said tower one is back in service.

**Street** – Miller said the Board of Works hired Jake Hadix and Landon Meckes for summer help. He reminded everyone of heavy trash pickup the weeks of April 22 and April 29<sup>th</sup>.

**CITIZEN CONCERNS:** Marvin Amison said he has a child in middle school and would like to see a program for the children such as “Scared Straight”. He said he thought this would help the kids get their grades up and also keep them out of trouble. He said he would volunteer his time. He said he has spoken with John Bartlett from the Department of Education. This type of program has been implemented in Indianapolis. Bridges said he would make contact with Bartlett.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **I.P. Phone System** - Jarman said we have 3 quotes:

SWC = \$28,558.00

TCT Technologies = \$25,390

Nine Star = \$22,796.08

Nine Star will accept quarterly payments with no interest. The remaining 2 would require leases.

2. **Blue Ribbon Estates Street Dedication** - We are waiting for the APC to send it back to the City for approval.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **EMA Director, Chuck Kemker, Storm Warning** – The report was given under Council President’s Report.
2. **FLSA** – The Council members were present during the Board of Works presentation. Jenkins asked if anyone had any questions. Sheehan asked if other communities handle this differently. Jenkins said some are doing something different, but they are under contract.

Sheehan asked if everyone falls under FLSA. Jenkins said the Chief and Assistant Chief would not, also if they had a secretary they would not.

3. **Police Retention Program** - Chief Tucker passed out information that he prepared showing comparisons with surrounding departments. Tucker said that the retention of officers has been an issue for the past 10 years. Our attrition rate is twice that of the national average. It has cost the City approximately \$8,000.00 per year to replace officers. Therefore, over the past 10 years it is estimated that we have spent approximately \$80,000.00 replacing officers. Tucker said it seems that the Rushville Police Department is being used for a stepping stone. He said on the average officers are serving approximately 10 years with our department.

Tucker offered some possible measures to consider improving the retention in the Rushville Police Department:

- We need to lead by example
- Tighten up our recruitment process
- Expand our advertising during the hiring process
- Employee engagement – programs for employees
- Create voluntary physical fitness program
- Scholarship program
- Take home car policy use for work purposes only.
- Master officer program
- Fixed pay increase similar to specialty pay.

Tucker said his goal is to move the department forward. He said the 3 year period seems to be a critical point. They are losing half of their officers within their first 5 years.

At the Board of Works meeting it was decided to form a committee to work out a plan. Pavey asked for 2 volunteers from Council. Conner and Smith volunteered to serve on the committee.

**Park Department Summer Camp** - Park Board Member, Aaron Gurley said the Park Department will be providing a 5 day camp at various parks July 15-19. The camp is for ages 4-12. The cost of the Camp is \$25.00 for the entire week. The hours of camp will be 10:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m. Intat has offered to sponsor the project for \$750.00. Several have volunteered to be camp leaders. The summer lunch program will be provided. There is also a “Sponsor a Child” program for those in need. To date they have raised \$1,450.00. Kids will receive a certificate of participation at the concert intermission on July 19.

**CLAIMS APPROVAL:** Sheehan made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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**ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE:** None.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before Council, Sheehan made a motion to adjourn. Smith seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

MICHAEL P. PAVEY, MAYOR

ROBERT M. BRIDGES, MEMBER

BRIAN G. CONNER, MEMBER

CRAIG A. SMITH, MEMBER

BRADLEY A. BERKEMEIER, MEMBER

BRIAN J. SHEEHAN, MEMBER

ATTEST:

ANN L. COPLEY, CLERK-TREASURER